

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

October 15, 2023

One God, One-in-Christ, One Westminster--
All with Gratitude!

Prelude

Tyler Neilson, guest accompanist

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship** (Psalm 19:1-4, Common English Bible)

Deacon Claire Titus

One: Praise the Lord!

**All: Give thanks to the Lord because God is good.
God's faithful love endures forever.**

One: Who could possibly repeat all of the Lord's mighty acts or publicly recount all his praise?

**All: The people who uphold justice, who always do
what is right, are truly happy!**

***Hymn #39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

This Sunday begins a new tradition of inviting baptismal families to select a hymn for our service. The Kubick family chose Great is Thy Faithfulness, a reminder of God's presence with us in all times.

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

Loving God, you rescued people from the land of captivity, out of the house of slavery. You rescued us from worry, freeing us to rejoice by the mercy of Jesus Christ. Still, we make idols of gold and goods. Still, we worry and stress before we breathe deeply and pray. Still, we rush around from to-do list item to calendar appointment, forgetting to pause to experience your creation and grace. Renew us by your Spirit and by your mercy. Remind us of our baptisms today, which unite us in grace and in faith. Amen.

***Response to the Confession**

#437

***You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!***

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

...Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise**

#582, v. 1

***Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

***Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Please share a sign of welcome and inclusion that is mutually comfortable (high five, handshake, fist/elbow bump) with your neighbors.

May the peace of Christ be with you. ***And also with you.***

Children's Chat

Sarah Baltensperger

(Children in Grades 1 – 5 are invited to come to Faith Village following the Children's Chat or to find and sit with their parents. Parents can pick up their children in Faith Village following the service.)

Sacrament of Baptism

Apostle's Creed (Modern Version)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Question of the Congregation

Elder: Do you, the members of Westminster, promise to love and nurture Lila, to provide for her Christian Education, and to set an example of faithfulness, to the end that she comes to confess Jesus Christ as Lord?

All: We do. Lila, we welcome you with joy and hope, energy and enthusiasm, laughter and communion, nurture and faith, love and acceptance.

**Hymn #486 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise, v.1 & 4
Child of blessing, child of promise,
baptized with the Spirit's sign,
with this water God has sealed you
unto love and grace divine.
Child of God, your loving Parent,
learn to listen for God's call.
Grow to laugh and sing and worship;
trust and love God more than all.**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scriptures Exodus 32:1-14 O.T. pg. 78

Epistle Reading Philippians 4:1-9 N.T. pg. 198

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Changing Minds: From Worry to Gratitude”
Rev. Chris Peters

*Hymn #611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Moment of Gratitude

Children/Youth Committee

Special Music

"O Day of Peace" arr. Hall H. Hopson
Westminster Choir

Prayers of the People

Deacon Claire Titus

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread

*and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the
glory forever. Amen.*

***Hymn #648 Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise (x2)**

***Charge & Benediction** Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude Tyler Neilson, guest accompanist

*Please rise in body or spirit for these parts of worship.

Parts of today's words for worship (liturgy) are adapted from Feasting on the Word Liturgies Year A, Volume 2, Rev. Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long, Editor.

Westminster welcomes and values children in worship. If a parent feels a break is needed for their child during the service, our **Infant Room** is available. This is located off the entry foyer through the Sheridan Blvd./West-end sanctuary doors. When you enter the foyer, turn to your right, where the door will be open.

Giving to Westminster's Mission and Ministry

At Church: An offering to support Westminster may be placed in our red Giving Baskets following the service. These are located by the Sheridan Blvd. doors in the narthex and near the top of the stairs in the sanctuary on the Garden Room / South side. Look for the red baskets and signs that read "Giving Basket." Ushers monitor the baskets and collect the offerings following the service.

For online giving, scan the QR code.



Ministers: The whole congregation

Pastors: Rev. Chris Peters & Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Liturgist: Deacon Claire Titus

Interim Music Director: Mary Daughtery

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Acolytes: Reese and Addie Baltensperger

Greeters: Carol & Jim Bishop

Ushers: Leslie Miner, Robyn Uebele, Cynthia Olson, Barb Andersen

Dishwashers: Beth & Kris Anderzhon



*“I am the vine,
you are the branches . . .”*

The week of Oct. 15, 2023

*Westminster Presbyterian Church is an inclusive faith family,
inspired by Jesus Christ, to call, nurture, and empower disciples.*

**"One God, One-in-Christ, One Westminster - All in Gratitude for God"
is our theme for our Stewardship 2024 Annual Campaign, which runs
throughout the month of October.**

Today we continue our focus in worship on the call to shift toward gratitude in our lives of faith and the practice of our giving of time, talents, and financial gifts in thanksgiving to God.

Please note that Commitment Sunday has been moved to November 5.

October Adult Ed | 10:50 AM | Lounge

It's Reformation month, and Pastor Jimmy will look at "other" reformations in the faith community, other than Luther and Calvin.

Oct 15 The Reforms under Ezra & Nehemiah, Jerusalem 5th century BCE

Adult Ed on Oct 22

We will have a mission emphasis at Adult Ed on Oct. 22, with speakers Bob and Kristi Rice, mission co-workers to South Sudan.

Youth Group: Roca Scary Farm

Sun., Oct. 15, 6:00 PM

Get ready to get scared! Meet at Roca Scary Farm today at 6 PM. The cost for admission is \$24.50 + tax. Bring your friends and get the Halloween fun started! Assistance with cost is available.

New Member Sunday – October 22

Considering joining Westminster? You are welcome to take that next step of commitment on Sunday, 10/22. There are three steps to that process... 1) reach out to Pastor Chris (chris@westminsterlincoln.org) to confirm your interest and connect about questions and planning. 2) Join us at 9 AM in Fellowship Hall at Westminster to meet with our elders. Please be prepared to briefly tell us about your faith journey. 3) Stand before the congregation in worship and answer the questions of

membership during our New Member Welcome portion of the service. *If you have not attended our quarterly Westminster Welcome info session, please keep an eye out for upcoming dates. Attendance at Westminster Welcome is not required to join the church, but attendance is highly encouraged to aid in learning more about the church and the many avenues of connection and service offered at WPC.*

Prairie Readers | Oct. 18

Prairie Readers will meet October 18 at 1 PM in the Lounge. We are so pleased to have Pat Leach as our guest speaker. Pat will discuss several titles from the American Library Association's notable books list.

Ladies' Night Out | Wed., Oct. 18

You are invited to our next WPC Ladies' Night Out at Billy's Restaurant, located at 1301 H. Street on Wed., Oct. 18, from 5:00–7:00 PM. Feel free to invite a friend – the more the merrier! Cost: \$15/per person. This is our prearranged pricing for family-style heavy appetizers. This price does not include tip, tax and drink cost. RSVP: We would love to have a seat at the table for you and all our friends. Please kindly reply to robynu2@hotmail.com by Mon., Oct. 16.

History Buffs | Sat., Oct. 28, 9 AM

Prairie Pines Nature Preserve - Its Backstory

Sue Kohles, a member of the preserve's Board of Directors, will share how a Christmas tree farm begun by a UNL horticulturist became a northeast Lincoln treasure. Until a new site was negotiated, Prairie Pines almost found itself neighbors with the proposed new Nebraska prison. Meet at the site - 112th and Adams St., or carpool from WPC leaving at 8:30 AM. The program will begin with a presentation in the Welcome Center and end with an optional guided hike.

Heritage Sunday | October 29

Celebrate our Scottish history and heritage as Presbyterians in worship! We will celebrate a Kirken of the Tartans, a symbolic moment in worship where those of Scottish heritage are invited to bring forward a symbol of their heritage for a blessing. Continuing a shift reflecting God's wide embrace Westminster began around 2018, all are welcome to bring an appropriate symbol of their heritage for blessing. We'll be community together with a Caramel Apple Bar following worship.

SHAMPOO and SOAP = DIGNITY

SHAVING CREAM and TOOTHPASTE = SELF-ESTEEM

Presbyterian Women at Westminster are inviting you to fill the gap by filling the barrel with needed items. These basic hygiene products will be given to the **LINCOLN HYGIENE NETWORK** for distribution to over 20 non-profit groups in Lincoln and Lancaster County.

Find the list of needed items and the colorful barrel at the east end of the Garden Room at the top of the stairs from the parking lot. We have already filled the barrel once with over 350 items.

Can we do it again? YES!

Financial donations are accepted online: lincolnhygienenetwork.org or can be mailed to **Lincoln Hygiene Network / 21635 S. 68th Street / Hickman, NE 68372**

Won't you be? Please, won't you be? Won't you be a neighbor?

Equal Exchange Coffee

Mission/Outreach is pleased to bring Equal Exchange Coffee to Westminster friends. Available the first Sunday of the month.

Equal Exchange started with coffee from Nicaragua. Today, it partners with 24 farmer groups in 11 countries which produce high-quality organic coffees. EE purchases about 5.5 million pounds of green coffee beans each year from its partners to roast and sell to U.S. coffee drinkers. Equal Exchange buys exclusively from small-scale farmer cooperatives and associations. The farmers who produce Equal Exchange organic beans are committed to providing U.S. consumers with the highest quality coffee experience.

Our congregation is proud to offer a brew that is both delicious and reflects our values of social justice. By choosing this fairly traded coffee, you are supporting a whole separate ethical supply chain— not huge corporations. Enjoy it! Buy some to bring home, and share it with friends.

Spooktacular | Wednesday, October 25, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Believe it or not, Spooktacular is coming soon! On Wed., October 25 at 5:30 PM, put on your best costume and come to Westminster to play games, trick or treat, and have a frightfully fun evening. Here are a few of the activities you can look forward to:

Trick-or-treating, Bounce House, Photo Booth, Food Trucks, Giant Games (Connect 4, Jenga) And more!

You can help us make this event possible in a couple of ways: Please consider donating bags of candy, packaged snacks, pencils, and/or any small handouts for the children. Look for collection buckets at the top of the steps by the East entrance. Volunteer to staff a game or craft table. Wear a costume and decorate your car trunk or table inside with a fun theme then pass out treats to the children. Vehicles need to arrive by 4 pm to find a spot and put the finishing touches on your decorations.

Week Beginning October 15

<p><u>Sun. (Oct. 15)</u> 9:30 AM Worship/Baptism/Faith Village 10:45 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 3 PM Lincoln Police Explorers Training 6 PM Youth Group, Roca Scary Farm</p> <p><u>Mon. (Oct. 16)</u> Preschool Closed 11 AM Explorers Bible Study— Reading the Bible, Library</p> <p><u>Tues. (Oct. 17)</u> Preschool Closed 9:45 AM Staff Meeting 10:45 AM Stewardship & Finance, Library 3 PM Presbytery Council Meeting, Lounge 7 PM Faith & Cancer Support Group, Library</p>	<p><u>Wed. (Oct. 18)</u> 1 PM Prairie Readers, Lounge 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 5 PM Ladies’ Night Out 5:30 PM WestminsterLINK 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Thurs. (Oct. 19)</u> 7 PM Camera Club, Lounge</p> <p><u>Sun. (Oct. 22)</u> 9 AM Session Meeting with New Members 9:30 AM Worship/Faith Village 10:30 AM Farmhouse Fraternity Initiation Service, Sanctuary 10:45 AM Adult Ed. South Sudan Mission Report 10:45 AM Confirmation Class 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 6:30 PM Youth Group</p>
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Worship services are available on-line at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@WestminsterLincoln/streams>

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